

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) The elevator car assembly as recited in claim 7, wherein said brace comprises a steel sheet.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) The elevator car assembly as recited in claim 7, wherein said braces are secured to said upright by a single fastener.

7. (Currently Amended) An elevator car assembly comprising:

a frame including a plurality of uprights and a plank beam between the uprights;

a platform adjustably supported upon said frame, said platform being selectively adjustable relative to said frame to select an amount of the platform that is positioned on each of opposite sides of the uprights for balancing said assembly;

at least one brace mounted between said platform and at least one of said uprights, said brace stabilizing said platform in a selected position relative to said plank beam, said at least one brace comprising a plurality of braces mounted in a substantially V-shaped orientation between said platform and said upright, in which two of the braces are legs of a V,

wherein each of said braces includes said slot and comprising a fastener at least partially received through said slots each said slot to secure said braces to said upright.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) An elevator ear assembly comprising:  
a frame including a plurality of uprights and a plank beam between the uprights;  
a platform adjustably supported upon said frame, said platform being selectively  
adjustable relative to said frame to select an amount of the platform that is positioned on each of  
opposite sides of the uprights for balancing said assembly;  
at least one brace mounted between said platform and at least one of said uprights, said  
brace stabilizing said platform in a selected position relative to said plank beam, said brace  
including a slot near an end of said brace that cooperates with said platform such that said end is  
adjustable relative to said platform to alter a position of said platform relative to said plank beam,  
said brace including a second slot near an opposite end of said brace that cooperates with  
said upright such that said opposite end is adjustable relative to said upright to alter a position of  
said platform.

10. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 9, wherein the platform is  
adjustable relative to the frame in at least a first direction within a plane of said platform and in a  
second direction that is not parallel to said plane.

11. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 9, including a plurality of fixed  
length braces securing said platform in a selected position relative to said frame.

12. Cancelled.

13. (Currently Amended) The elevator ear frame assembly as recited in claim 7,  
wherein each said slot has a dimension that is larger than a dimension of said fastener to permit  
said brace to be longitudinally moveable relative to said fastener into a selected position.

14. (Previously Presented) The elevator car frame assembly as recited in claim 13, wherein said brace comprises a second slot and including a second fastener that is at least partially received through said second slot to secure said brace to said platform, said second slot having a dimension that is larger than a dimension of said second fastener to permit said brace to be longitudinally moveable relative to said second fastener into a selected position.

15. (Previously Presented) The elevator car frame assembly as recited in claim 7, wherein said braces comprise fixed-length braces adjustably mounted to said platform and said uprights.

16. (Previously Presented) The elevator car frame assembly as recited in claim 7, wherein said platform has a plurality of layers separated by a plurality of isolation pads, said isolation pads having an equal weight distribution thereon.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of assembling a portion of an elevator car assembly comprising the steps of:

placing a platform upon a plank beam;

supporting the car assembly in a hoistway relative to guiderails;

allowing the car assembly to tilt relative to the guiderails based upon a current weight distribution of the car assembly;

adjusting a position of the platform relative to the plank beam to selectively distribute an amount of the platform on each of opposite sides of the plank beam to thereby change the weight distribution of the car assembly within the hoistway; and and to thereby balance the car assembly.

18. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 17, including adjusting a position of at least one brace extending between the platform and an upright secured to the plank beam.

19. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 17, comprising securing a cab to the platform and subsequently adjusting the position of the platform with respect to the plank beam.

20-21. (Cancelled)